

In the Claims:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Previously Presented) A method of providing hematopoietic stem cells to a subject comprising the steps of:

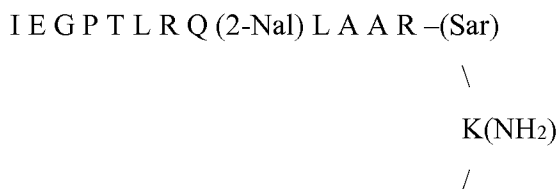
administering a thrombopoietin (TPO) mimetic compound to a subject to increase stem cells in said subject;

harvesting one or more of the stem cells;

treating said subject with a bone marrow ablative treatment; and

transplanting the harvested stem cells into the subject,

wherein the TPO mimetic compound has the following sequence:



I E G P T L R Q (2-Nal) L A A R -(Sar),

wherein (2-Nal) is β -(2-naphthyl)alanine and Sar is sarcosine.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the subject is a human.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more stem cells are cryopreserved after harvesting.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the one or more cryopreserved stem cells are thawed and determined to be viable prior to transplanting the stem cells into the subject.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the one or more stem cells are transplanted into the subject when the subject is in need of such transplantation.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TPO mimetic compound has reduced immunogenicity relative to one or more of rhTPO and rhIL-11.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TPO mimetic compound has an improved pharmacokinetic profile relative to one or more of rhTPO and rhIL-11.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing a time to engraftment following reinfusion of stem cells in a subject comprising the steps of:

administering a thrombopoietin (TPO) mimetic compound to the subject;

increasing stem cells in said subject;

harvesting one or more of the stem cells;

treating said subject with a bone marrow ablative treatment; and

transplanting the one or more harvested stem cells into the subject, thereby reducing the time to engraftment of stem cells.

wherein the TPO mimetic compound has the following sequence:

I E G P T L R Q (2-Nal) L A A R –(Sar)

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K(NH₂)

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I E G P T L R Q (2-Nal) L A A R –(Sar),

wherein (2-Nal) is β -(2-naphthyl)alanine and Sar is sarcosine.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the incidence of delayed primary engraftment comprising the steps of:

administering a thrombopoietin (TPO) mimetic compound to the subject;

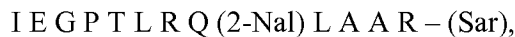
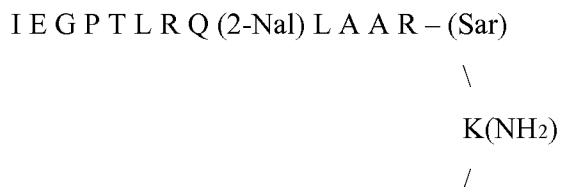
increasing stem cells in said subject;

harvesting one or more of the stem cells;

treating said subject with a bone marrow ablative treatment; and

transplanting the one or more harvested stem cells into the subject, thereby reducing the incidence of delayed primary engraftment.

wherein the TPO mimetic compound has the following sequence:

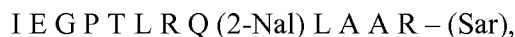
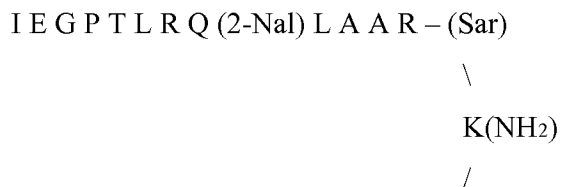


wherein (2-Nal) is β -(2-naphthyl)alanine and Sar is sarcosine.

11. (Currently amended) A method of reducing the incidence of secondary failure of platelet production comprising the steps of:

- administering a thrombopoietin (TPO) mimetic compound to the subject;
- increasing stem cells in said subject;
- harvesting one or more the stem cells;
- treating the subject with a bone marrow ablative treatment; and
- transplanting the one or more harvested stem cells into the subject, thereby reducing the incidence of secondary failure of platelet production.

wherein the TPO mimetic compound has the following sequence:

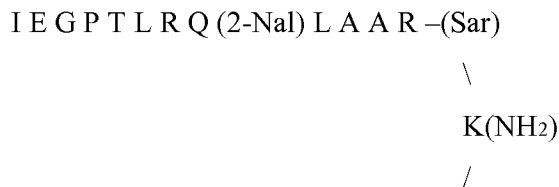


wherein (2-Nal) is β -(2-naphthyl)alanine and Sar is sarcosine.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the time of platelet and/or neutrophil engraftment following reinfusion of stem cells in a subject comprising the steps of:

- administering a thrombopoietin (TPO) mimetic compound to the subject;
- increasing stem cells in said subject;
- harvesting one or more of the stem cells;
- treating the subject with a bone marrow ablative treatment; and

transplanting the one or more harvested stem cells into the subject, thereby reducing the time of platelet and/or neutrophil engraftment following reinfusion of stem cells, wherein the TPO mimetic compound has the following sequence:



I E G P T L R Q (2-Nal) L A A R -(Sar),
wherein (2-Nal) is β -(2-naphthyl)alanine and Sar is sarcosine.

13-14.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said TPO mimetic compound is covalently attached to a hydrophilic polymer.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of between about 500 to about 40,000 daltons.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of between about 5,000 to about 20,000 daltons.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of about 20,000 daltons.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said polymer is polyethylene glycol.

20-25.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein each of the dimeric subunits of said TPO mimetic compound is covalently attached to a hydrophilic polymer.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of between about 500 to about 40,000 daltons.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of between about 5,000 to about 20,000 daltons.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said hydrophilic polymer has an average molecular weight of about 20,000 daltons.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said polymer is polyethylene glycol.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said stem cells are within said subject's bone marrow.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said stem cells are within said subject's peripheral circulation.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said subject is treated with chemotherapy.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said subject is treated with radiation thereapy.

REMARKS

Claims 9-12 were amended to link the preamble to the remainder of the claim. Claim 34 was amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter is added by way of this amendment.

Sequence compliance